TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700

Art Unit: 3735

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 7/11/07 has been entered.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Elizabeth Stanek on August 20, 2007.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claims 66 and 70 were cancelled.

The claims were cancelled because the claim language did not make sense in view of the most recent changes to claims 1 and 54.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Art Unit: 3735

Regarding claims 1-20, 22, 23, 26, 27, 54-65, and 69, the primary reason for allowance is the inclusion of the cuff defining a first closed member, the sleeve defining a second closed member residing inside the first closed member attached to the cuff, wherein the sleeve is adapted to elastically expand about the body portion of the user in a form fitting manner before inflation of the cuff member and elastically compress the body portion when the cuff member is inflated, in combination with all of the other limitations of the claims, which is not taught by the prior art.

The allowability of claims 21, 24, 25, and 28 was addressed in a previous Office action filed 5/21/07 and is repeated here for convenience.

Regarding claim 21, the primary reason for allowance is the inclusion of the sleeve sensor chamber having a lower edge portion that is seamless and a lower edge portion that is open, in combination with all of the other limitations of the claims, which is not taught by the prior art.

Regarding claims 24, 25, and 28, the primary reason for allowance is the inclusion of the sleeve being attached to the cuff member, having at least one rib support member, and comprising a curvilinear cable channel in communication with the sensor chamber, the channel including an intermediate segment that is arcuate, a lower first segment that is substantially longitudinal, and an upper segment above the arcuate segment that includes lateral directional components, in combination with all of the other limitations of the claims, which is not taught by the prior art.

Regarding claims 34-41, 67, and 68, the primary reason for allowance is the inclusion of the sleeve being configured to reside under the wrapped cuff member,

Art Unit: 3735

being attached to a single one of the short edge portions, and extending outwardly from a primary surface of the cuff, in combination with all of the other limitations of the claims, which is not taught by the prior art.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Patricia C. Mallari whose telephone number is (571) 272-4729. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 10:00 am-6:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Charles Marmor, II can be reached on (571) 272-4730. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Application/Control Number: 10/705,364 Page 5

Art Unit: 3735

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

pcm

CHARLES A. MARMOR II SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700